



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Monroe County



County characteristics

- 901 sq. mi.
- Northeast ¼ largely forested with scattered cranberry marshes. Remainder of county is unglaciated and hilly with numerous dairy farms. Woods are predominantly oak type.
- Waters: warm-water streams; 7 lakes including 2 exceptional resource waters; headwaters of high quality trout streams
- Ft. Mc Coy is a 60,000 acre federal military installation
- There are 40,899 residents living in Monroe County

State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 5,069 acres of state land including wildlife and fisheries areas, streambank protection areas, and Mill Bluff State Park
- 4,911 acres open to hunting
- Locate DNR properties at: http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html



Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- DNR Service Center supporting Monroe Co: 3550 Morman Coulee Rd., LaCrosse 54601 - 3 Customer Service Staff located at Service Center. Monroe Co:
- 1 Wildlife Biologist; 1 Wildlife Technician; 2 Conservation Wardens
- Some staff also serve portions of Crawford, La Crosse, and Vernon Counties

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Establish and maintain forest, grassland and wetland habitat for ducks, pheasants, wild turkey, deer, and numerous other wildlife species on public and private lands.

- High deer and turkey populations require extra enforcement efforts to curtail illegal baiting, shining, and road hunting.
- Control exotic and invasive species such as purple loosestrife, leafy spurge, wild parsnip, spotted knapweed, thistle, garlic mustard, and boxelder to assure high-quality native habitats.
- Manage DNR land by posting public hunting and access sites, build and maintain parking areas.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of ducks, geese, pheasants, grouse, woodcock, deer, frogs, songbirds, eagles, and osprey.
- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints and monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus.

Activities continued

- Evaluate proposed projects for environmental impacts, work to keep habitats intact and functioning for fish and wildlife.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.

Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

- 17 streams stocked with 42,884 wild brook and brown trout;
- 6 ponds stocked with 9,900 rainbow and brook trout
- 6 lakes stocked with bass and northern pike
- 1 Day-old chick club which stocks about 500 pheasants on lands open to public hunting



County Success Stories

- Monroe County provides excellent habitat for the federally endangered Karner Blue Butterfly
- Trout stream restoration projects
- Lake Tomah rehabilitation project
- Numerous trout stream restoration projects including a major effort on the LaCrosse River

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs; Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management